

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to direct their 62 stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Also, one company should not own more than one station in any one community. This can lead to manipulation of the news to suit the opinions of the owners. Press in the US should be free, and this must be guaranteed.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to SERVE THE PUBLIC INTEREST. But when large companies control the airwaves, they also control the content of the "news" and programming, which can correspond to their political views. This is wrong.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. The rules regarding ownership of stations needs review and reform.

Thank you.